

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of )  
Lionel VENTELON *et al.* ) Group Art Unit: 1796  
Application Serial No.: 10/563,792 ) Examiner: Kelechi Chidi EGWIM  
Filing Date: May 7, 2007 ) Confirmation No.: 5332  
Title: METHOD FOR PREPARING )  
ANISOTROPIC SILICA )  
AGGREGATES )

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In complete response to the Restriction Requirement mailed June 17, 2010,

Applicants respond as follows.

The Examiner restricted pending Claims 15-28<sup>1</sup> into the following two groups:

- Group I:** Claims 15-26 ("drawn to a process for preparing anisotropic aggregates of silica"); and
- Group II:** Claims 27 and 28 ("drawn to aggregates of silica and a reinforcing filler containing the same").

See *Office Action mailed June 17, 2010, Page 2.*

Applicants hereby elect, with traverse, the claims of Group I, *i.e.*, Claims 15-26.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the Restriction Requirement at least due to the mandate of § 803 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure which states: "If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner *must* examine it on the merits, even though

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<sup>1</sup> Applicants note that the Office Action Summary should list Claims 15 to 28 as pending. Claims 1-14 were canceled via the Preliminary Amendment filed on January 6, 2006.